

(Dublin Sept. 16: 1867)

My dear Friend

I was (as I always am) extremely glad to get your letter - but I am so well aware of the way in which you have been recently engaged as well as of the multiplicity of ~~your~~ calls upon your time, that I never felt surprised at not hearing from you, but am often puzzled to imagine how you make out time for all you have to get through.

It is very kind of the doctor to be so kind upon my crossing the Atlantic next summer - for I am most anxious to see you all, and in my particular circumstances, I see no ground of hope that I can do so very soon, except the energy of your resolution.

Some people you know seem to think that a strong will can do any thing. It is however much more difficult for us to gratify ourselves by travelling than for you.

Although always out of debt and so far out of danger, I am not by any means a dashing

trader, riding on the crest of the
waves of fortune like Richard Allen.
Within the last few years he has become
a rich man mainly by puffing and
devoted applications to butchers. I
could neither puff nor run up my tail
to money making as he does. His
proclamations are in all the Newspapers
and he has his reward - for he lives
in luxury and can do as he pleases.
If I had his ability, I would have
betted Boston long ago for I would
rather see the Abolitionists face to
face - than Rome or Athens. My
partner (who is a Chapman) is a small
little man - very stout and very upright
and a great devotee in Quaker fashion.
He is also extremely delicate in his
health and has been disabled from
attending to business for 6 months ^{at a time.} together.
When I go from home for a few days
I need never be surprised to hear that
he is ~~at home~~ between the blankets
instead of in the office keeping my place.

To you see I am kept a pretty close prisoner.
I had a few lines from Mr Wright from Halifax
two days ago - he seems to have had a very
favorable passage and to have got over the
voyage much more easily than he antici-
pated. My fancy was tickled by one feature
of his letter. It was intended for publication. He
wrote that I should print it and send it
onward to his friends who would be pleased to
hear of his safe arrival. Accordingly it was
written before he had actually arrived - or it seemed
to have been - for it contained hardly which
were filled up with the period. I think this
habit of holding myself and ones down, anti-
cipation before the public is apt to generate a
way of writing flattery for display that is
heartier natural or pleasing. I find by the
Liberator just come that C. L. Burleigh had
no business of crossing the Atlantic. I am sorry
for it - for I had pictured him to myself as a
very natural unaffected sort of man - not
thinking of what people thought of him or his
beard. As to the Norriths I really
know very little - I suppose I have not
studied their case as much as you have,
and my personal acquaintance with
them is but slight. Nevertheless from what
I do know, I judge very favorably. I take
them to be ^{an} upright, independent, well-minded
pair.

Wm North ~~intends~~ an industrious earnest
man of business, willing to make the most by
his labors - he is, I think, quick tempered,
perhaps apt to take offence, and not very
placable. But he is a pleasant man &
I enjoyed his company very much. I speak
like his wife, and I would love her if she be
at all to be judged by her writings. I think
they have been entrapped by Saunders to their
great annoyance and pecuniary
loss. I judge that Saunders is a very great
ascal from the fact that Wm North has
repeatedly published such statements respecting
him as would entitle Saunders to large damages
for libel, in any court of justice, if they could
be repeated. But I do not think they can.
I suspected that Abnernean took Saunders
side, as his name is the only one of note
which remains as a contributor to the Rev
Journal. If I knew nothing of the parties in
this quarrel, I would be apt to be guided by
her opinions, for I think highly of her probity
and love of impartial justice - but as I know
something of the Norths, Harriet's opinions does
disturb the complacency of my conclusions.
I hear that Emerson intends to be in
England in a few weeks - From what I have
heard of him I would greatly like to have
him in my home - If you know nothing

that makes you think I would not, I will⁽⁵⁾
thank you to send him the enclosed note of
invitation that it may catch him before
he sails.

There are a few pounds due to you at the
end of the year. Along with this and some
which Maria Waring has promised to
me, and a trifling loan I wish to be able to
make up a package of stationery - Anne
Allen & James Haughton's daughters (as
he told me today) wish ~~to~~ ^{prepare} something
and we wish they have a letter to send -
But we thought it better not to ~~frustrate~~
circulate appeals for assistance as in
former years - for there is too much poverty;
& every body is grumbling about the difficulty
either of getting money or of keeping body
and soul together. The extent of poverty
and pauperism is really frightful. There are
at least a million too many people in
Ireland, where things are as they are.
If all the land were well cultivated and the
population were intelligent, and industrious,
& energetic, it is likely we could have worn
for a few millions more - but as this is
not the case, there is I am confident, more
than a million of people in Ireland
who do nothing but starve on half diet

dragging out a miserable subsistence
by depending on the charity of others.

We are hemmed in by pauperism on all
sides - it is disgusting & depressing to witness
it. There is very little in Ireland to make
an Irishman proud of his country. Poverty
is an incubus upon ^{us} the country. The want of
self reliance, the indifference to truth, and the
ignorance and absence of principle which
prevail so deplorably may be attributed to
this cause in a great degree.

I send you a faithful transcript of a letter
written, at his request, to Maria Waring
by Lewis Tappan. The sum we have to send
it, and he, you will perceive, alludes to
as the pleasure for the furtherance of
the cause of truth. I know ^{no} more impartial
honest, scrupulously truth loving person
than Maria - and ~~there~~ her desire to test
some of Mrs Richardson's random assertions
respecting the ~~late~~ scheme in 1840, ~~already~~ in-
duced her to apply to her old friends & friends to
Lewis Tappan himself as the main cause
of the deception. His denial of the woman's
right question having had much to do with that
affair is new to me. He seems to me to
tell a pretty plain story and one which does
not redound to his own credit. With ever
me why the New En. Committee refused to take

the book stock back from the Seceders in
the guarantee that the latter should be free
from habits connected with that stock?
It seems to me that the old Committee were
entitled to be borne heavily in any transac-
tions honestly effected by them on behalf of
the Society. The refusal to do so appears un-
reasonable inasmuch as it was looked on
as parleying with rebels with arms in their hands,
or ^{as} compromising a felony.

I need myself think Edmund Beecher has
taken too much trouble with Eliza Barrett in a
late Liberator. He put a whole his tongue to break
her off again & sheet. I am giving Eliza
more entire very deeply into the investigation
of the original cause of trouble in 1840 - he
probably thinks that while they came to no more
than a little pettishness, that the heaping of
Universal Brotherhood would save & bind together
this as completely as ever. There certainly is
a large number of well intentioned, kind men,
orthodox people who can't or won't understand
or enter into the cause of quarrel - and whose
sympathies are all engaged by the knowledge
of the fact that the orthodox stand on one
side - the heretics on the other - and then con-
clude very naturally, however unfairly, that
this being ascertained, it is needless to enquire
in which side justice, truth, and all the
rights are to be found.

I was not sorry to see the same Law better
in the Refuge of Oppression which I. L. also
contemplates with such severity. It does prove
in a striking manner how people become so
accustomed to an evil, that they can't see
the harm of it. It passes my comprehension
how the Americans can cherish Slavery as they
do, so that when war is present, a Resolu-
tion is made against it by personal friends
of the same profession of religion, the interference
is received as ~~foreign~~ ^{unimportant} & needless.
Surely if it is wrong for an Englishman to protest
against American Slavery, it must be at least
equally so for any preacher from this side of
the Atlantic to preach to an American on
this dangerous subject. I have seen that
any amount of remonstrance from America
against the English Slave Law - if a benevolent
remonstrance - comes to hands with gratitude
by a large number of members of the English
people - including I should think nine tenths
the Unitarian body. I don't suppose a Unitarian
minister in England benefits by these laws
or would be otherwise than delighted at their
repeal. And they will surely be repealed
or greatly modified before long. I don't believe
that Slavery were now before us so far as any
measuring in England as they are now - at least
and the popular will were never before in so true &
safe a way of being obeyed in all its reasonable
demands.

I think it would be well if the letters of Lewis (9)
Lappam were published along with some from
and business comments, not so much to
exhibit a "sacra indignatio" which the opo-
rant in the affair may not be able to com-
prehend or sympathize in, as to show to the
sacred capacity the admissions that he
made to his own disadvantage & that of his
party. From the extracts in the B. & F. G. S.
Reports you would suppose that the Liberty Party
was in a full vigor in 1840 and that the appoint-
ment of Presidents & Vice Presidents, Senators &
Representatives was going on with as much solemn
energy as ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~most~~ ^{most} did. A Rev. Mr. McCune, a
Lutheran, who was introduced to me by Edward
Leiber of Pennsylvania - and whom I thought ~~but~~
this James Haughton did not, ~~but~~ ^{but} ~~as~~ ^{as} has
just written to the latter requesting him to become
a contributor or correspondent to the National
Era, as I am to the Standard. James intends
to reply and to give him, as the fishwife says,
"a piece of his mind." McCune came over to
the Councils of Alliances (he is an American and
Irishman) and behaved as shabbily as the great
majority of that body who did not openly espouse
the Standard's part. He is big word of an abo-
litionist I see - since he is working on behalf
of the Era

Our five children are all being educated at home
under their mother's eye. There are two masters - one
of whom attends 2 hours on each of 3 days in the
week - and the other 1 1/2 hours ^{each of} the other 3 days.
This costs twice as much as a day school would -
but we find that the children learn much more
without the disadvantages of bad company or
of the confinement. The health of our eldest
boy who is now than 13 years old, has been greatly
improved by this plan - and the older our children
grow the more plainly I perceive the advantage
of a very nearly unobtrusive education in which
the children have been made confident, friends,
& companions. No violence has been used. Not
one of our children is likely to shrink personally
or intellectually - so we make no compromise with the
knowledge that "beauty is only skin deep" and that
it is better to be good ~~and~~ than great. You will hardly
let me down as a great old twaddle. By the way,
have you seen Henry Channing since his return? I
can't imagine how he manages to exist out of the
atmosphere of high artistic life in which he
breathes more inspiration than any other person
I have chance to meet with. He is remarkably
well suited for it - he has high, easy manners,
pleasant looks, and such a freedom from any
thing particular. Frederick Douglass
threw wonderful blood to keep from striking that
ruffian who haled him out of the Railway car.
It puzzles us to know how he restrained himself with

note last year is plans to
I think a Yankee poem he
I have very little of knowledge. Is he still with you?

plans to his very haughty temper and great strength. He is going through such a discipline as can't fail to make a great man of him.

If you should remember it when you next
are disposed to lend me a line I would like
to know something of the Rogers family -
what they are doing - how they are - and whether
whether there are any remains of the Anti
-Copernican relations which the poor
fellow enchanted himself in trying to convert
me.

What do you think of the Pope? In my opinion he is the greatest man in Europe. I am quite enthusiastic about him, and even to my cost, I read the newspaper regularly for the purpose of seeing what the day has brought forth to afford his interests. I look on him as a man of extraordinary wisdom, largeness of view, & intelligence, & benevolence - and it is grand to see the probable regeneration of a nation in consequence of the resurrection of such a man from the abyss of degradation in which poor Italy was sunk beneath the repression, and benumbing policy of Austria, that monster of the nation.

With cordial good wishes to all
the choir from my domestic sphere I remain
yours ever truly & respectfully
P. J. McKee

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